

LOCAL BRIEVITIES.

Happy New Year!  
Are you ready for 1918?

A very quiet and orderly Christmas. The merchants did a rushing business Saturday.

The income tax man will be in Ironton next week.

Rabbits were selling at two for a quarter the past week.

The Christmas turkey sold for twenty-six cents on foot in Ironton.

William Desmond in "The Iced Bullets" and "The Iron Claw" next Tuesday.

Annual meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of Bellevue Valley, Saturday, January 5th.

Marguerite Clark, as "Helen of the North," a comedy and the Ford Weekly next Saturday.

Preaching by the pastor of the Methodist Church next Sunday morning at Fort Hill, and at Union at night.

Lawson Henry is now at the Ellington Aviation Field, Houston, Texas, where he expects to be stationed for the winter.

This is Christmas time. The indulgent reader will be good enough to overlook the shortcomings of this week's paper.

The Community Christmas tree at the courthouse Monday evening attracted a large crowd. Christmas in the valley was quiet.

With eggs selling at fifty cents, sugar scarce and high, and whiskey hardly none at all, the Christmas egg nog was a decided luxury.

After several days of very mild weather it grew colder Monday night and when Christmas dawned the ground was covered with snow.

The teachers and students in the Ironton High School last week subscribed for \$166 of the War Savings Certificates. A creditable showing.

Oscar Heywood, of Ironton, recently enlisted in the Aviation Branch of the Signal Corps, and is now at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas. May he achieve fame and fortune!

Mrs. J. M. Reel had the misfortune to fall on the snow at her home in north Ironton Christmas day and sustained a fractured hip. The sufferer is resting as well as could be expected.

Mr. A. I. Willard, local agent, has presented us with one of the Central States Life Insurance Company's calendars for 1918. It is a large and serviceable calendar and most acceptable.

Married—At the courthouse, Ironton, Mo., Saturday, December 22d, 1917, Leroy C. Osborn and Myrtle Hattie Singleton, both of Piedmont, Mo., O. W. Roop, Judge of Probate, officiating.

Married—At the courthouse, Ironton, Mo., Saturday, December 22d, 1917, Elmer Ebert, of Lesterville, and Miss Clara McGowan, of Ironton, Mo., O. W. Roop, Judge of Probate, officiating.

Mrs. L. H. Davis left yesterday by train for Arcadia to spend the holidays with her daughter, Mrs. Boardman. Rev. Davis will drive through and join her.—Fredericktown Democrat News.

As has been his custom every Christmas for several years past, Mr. H. A. Nall, of Jefferson City, remembered the editor with a box of most excellent cigars. Our sincere thanks and assurance of appreciation.

We received a letter from our friend W. N. McClurg. He stated that they were well pleased with their home in St. Louis. Mr. McClurg has been employed at Madison, Ill., since leaving Bismarck.—Bismarck Gazette.

E. G. Eastman, Ironton's first-class baker, last week did some advertising in the REGISTER. The following Saturday his entire stock of bread was sold before noon and forthwith he had to start on another batch. Who says it does not pay to advertise?

Sam Middleton, the popular representative of the Thiebes Piano Company of St. Louis, was an Ironton visitor last week. Mr. Middleton will make regular trips to Ironton hereafter and asks all his friends in Ironton county who are in need of anything in the musical line to see him before making any purchases.

Recorder Hawkins has issued the following marriage licenses the past week:

Geo. W. Thompson and Alma McClurg of Bellevue.

Elmer Ebert of Lesterville and Clara McGowan of Ironton.

Leroy C. Osborn and Myrtle Hattie Singleton of Piedmont.

Haskell Tinker and Mary Welsh of Patterson.

Paul Jones spent a couple of days in St. Louis the past week, winding up his affairs with the Goddard Grocer Co., preparatory to departing next week for Great Lakes, Ill., the Naval training camp. Paul is in receipt of a highly complimentary letter from his former employers, complimenting him highly upon his work as a traveling salesman, and promising him the same connection after the expiration of his enlistment; if he then wants it. He was also remembered very handsomely by the company with a substantial testimony of their good will and care for his personal comfort while in training.—Farmington Times.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson and E. H. Bess are in St. Louis this week buying a complete new outfit of furnishing for the new hotel, which the Wilkinsons will open the first of the year. The goods are being bought through Mr. Bess. Mr. Wilkinson has sold the hotel and out of it, which he has been operating at Ironton, and will devote his entire time and attention to the business here.—Fredericktown Democrat News.

John H. Stevenson, of Des Arc, was in Ironton last Thursday. He informed us that if it was finally determined that the proposed state highway should go through Des Arc, he would, as soon as the decision was announced, commence the erection of a modern garage and service station, near the railroad station in that town. Mr. Stevenson told us that his brother, William, who recently went to Tazewell, in Wayne county, to look after business interests, expects to be back in Des Arc to make his home in the spring.

The Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C., announces the appointment of Robert A. Rasche, of Ironton, as Explosive Licensing Agent for Iron county. All persons having explosives in their possession are required to have a license from the federal government showing for what purpose they are to be used. Violators of this law are subject to a fine of \$5,000 and a year's imprisonment. It is a war measure, designed to keep explosives out of unfriendly hands. If you have any explosives in your possession or intend purchasing some see Mr. Rasche about your license. The law is now in force and delay on your part may be expensive and troublesome.

The editor of the Ironton REGISTER is kicking on the size of his electric bills, and now the light company will put a new tariff in effect there which will make them still higher, something like \$5.00 per month these short days. We have electric lights in our home that don't cost us much more than that in a whole year, the Delco system. The actual cost of operating this plant, illuminating a six-room house for a single occupant, is at present less than ten cents per week, the average weekly cost the year round being considerably less than that. Electric light is the cheapest thing we have among the modern conveniences at our home.—Potosi Journal.

The Delco system for us, then, and that soon, too!

We are in receipt of an attractive and handsome Christmas and New Year greeting from Mr. Edward H. Ameling of Indianapolis, Indiana. In a note Mr. Ameling says: "You will recall, during my recent visit, I informed you that my son, Carl, was at Fort Benjamin Harrison at the training camp. I am pleased to state that he received a commission as second lieutenant in the regular army and has been assigned to duty at Camp Greene, North Carolina, 38th Infantry. He left for his post, December 13th. I am, indeed, proud that my family will be represented in this great light that is now going on to save the world's democracy. I can assure you that were it not for my many responsibilities, I, too, would gladly go to the front and do my 'bit.'" Good for Ed! His words ring true. May Lieut. Carl cover himself with glory!

From last week's De Soto Republican: "The case of the Bellevue Valley Railroad Company vs. the Bellevue and Western Railroad was called before Circuit Judge E. M. Dearing in chambers, here Tuesday, and by agreement was continued until the next regular term of the Iron county circuit court to be held in Ironton April next. The plaintiff company is suing for rent of tracks and right-of-way to the defendant. The Bellevue & Western runs from Iron Mountain, through Graniteville, to the Bellevue valley, a rich farming and timber community. The road went into the hands of a receiver last spring and Ed Merseal of this city was appointed to take over its affairs. Most of its business is the hauling of ties for the Merseal-Allee Timber Company, which has its offices in De Soto. The Bellevue Valley Railroad Company exists only as a corporation, and operates no rolling stock. The line was originally built to transport granite from the Schneider quarry at Graniteville to the main line. Later the extension was made to Bellevue."

We are now graciously informed by the Missouri Public Service Commission that that body will grant the people of Ironton a hearing upon the proposed increased cost of current furnished by the Iron County Electric Light and Power Company. Presumably, therefore, the 20-year contract to which the city and the Company are parties will be absolutely set aside and held for naught. That contract was entered into not by the initial solicitation of the City, but by the insistent desire of the Company, long before the existence of the State Service Commission. No fraud or deception upon our part can be charged. Has this Service Commission the power to vitiate such an agreement upon the mere solicitation of either party, ex parte and unannounced to the other side in interest? It is true, as stated above, we are to have a hearing providing protest is made before December 30th, and that the new rate will stand suspended for 120 days. I might, in my lack of up-to-dateness, ask why was not the granting of the request for increase in price deferred until such hearing could be had? Why should the burden of proving a negative be put upon us as against the granted petition of the Company? I am no lawyer, but it is currently held,

I believe, that no affirmation in law can command action until its truth is proven after fair and full hearing. Such a hearing would have, at least, obviated the error of designating an increase in rate of 60 to 100 per cent as one of only 20 per cent. However, we are to have the hearing of protest, and for this I suppose we ought to be thankful. We may not succeed in holding the Electric Company to its contract; but, if not, we have yet the free-born privilege of letting it go its way. We can, if it so must be, return to old, reliable kerosene. I don't think there is anything in Commission law—wonderful and far-reaching as it is—to prevent it.

MEN AND TEAMS WANTED.

50 Men and 10 Teams wanted to cut and haul mine props and railroad ties at Iron Mountain, Mo. Men wanted to cut cord wood; \$1.50 for hickory and \$1.25 for oak—pay twice a week. Will furnish material with which to build houses for those who desire. Address J. W. FAHLAND, Pilot Knob, Mo. Phone 116.

The Electric Light's Increased Rate.

When Dr. E. L. Barnhouse was in Ironton last week he was requested by our citizens, upon his return to Jefferson City, to call upon the State Public Service Commission and protest against its action concerning the electric light rates in this city. From Jefferson City, under date of December 21st, Dr. Barnhouse addressed the editor of the REGISTER as follows:

"In regard to the Iron County Electric Light & Power Company and the increase in their rate will say: I called upon the Public Service Commission to-day and they informed me that the increased rate filed with the Commission by the Iron County Electric Light & Power Company would go into effect automatically on the date advertised, December 28th, unless the opposition file a protest against this increased rate; so I am assured by the Commission's expert on lights and power companies that these rates will be in suspended for 120 days upon some interested party filing a letter of protest, and automatically, the date for filing this protest would expire on December 23d; therefore, I, as an interested party, and one greatly against this increased rate, and in the interest and on behalf of the people of Ironton, have filed a letter of protest and have assured the Commission in my letter of protest, that if they will set a date for a hearing, preferably at Ironton, that we will prosecute our protest vigorously at that hearing."

Following is a copy of the letter of protest filed with the Public Service Commission by Dr. Barnhouse:

December 21, 1917.  
Public Service Commission of Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo.;

Gentlemen—This letter is written on behalf of the citizens of the City of Ironton, Iron County, Missouri. We desire to protest against any increase in the present rate charged for electricity by the Iron County Electric Light & Power Company, of Ironton, Missouri. This light company has published a notice in the Ironton COUNTY REGISTER for the citizens of Ironton, who are patrons of this company, that the increase in rate for electricity has been authorized by your commission. The advertisement spoken of in the Ironton COUNTY REGISTER has led the patrons of this company to believe that the increase in rate, which will be in effect, December 29, 1917, is pursuant to an order of the Public Service Commission.

As one of the patrons of this company, and as I believe that I represent the sentiment of every other patron of this company at Ironton, Missouri, I am opposed to this increase in rate; therefore, we ask your honorable commission to suspend this rate for such time as in your judgment would be right and proper in order that the people who are the patrons of this Iron County Electric Light Company may be heard at a hearing which we hope will be held at some future period at Ironton, Missouri, in order to give each and every person a chance to be heard in person, or by counsel.

I desire to assure your honorable body that this protest will be vigorously prosecuted to the fullest extent, as we believe the increase in rate is unreasonable, unnecessary, and in violation of every principle of right between the people and a public service corporation.

We are going to insist that your honorable commission give the fullest investigation possible along the lines of a full and complete audit of this company's books and the valuation of this plant and its equipment, their general expenses, necessary and unnecessary, their shameful and inefficient service since they have held the charter from the City of Ironton, their violation of any contract entered into. We hope all of this to be threshed out by the investigation we ask your commission to make.

This is not a petition, but simply a letter requesting a suspension of the increase of rates. Our petitions will be filed as soon as notice is received of the date set for the hearing.

Very truly yours,  
E. L. BARNHOUSE.

WARNING!

Any party or parties found hunting or trespassing, day or night, on the estate of J. C. Roehry, will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Let this be a fair warning.  
J. C. ROEHRY.  
Bellevue, Mo., Dec 24, 1917.

PERSONAL.

Emil Roehry is home from Omaha. W. R. Edgar, Jr., was in St. Louis last week.

Harry Joe Jones is home from Columbia, Mo.

Fred Erbe and wife, are here from Granite City, Ill.

Bryon Ringo's home from Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Grover Curtis returned to Poplar Bluff last week.

G. W. Hansen and family spent Christmas at Belgrade.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Algier are here from New Madrid county.

Robert McKee arrived home from Akron, Ohio, last Wednesday.

V. Jordan and B. A. Dunn of Sabula were Ironton visitors last Wednesday.

Aloys Ney of near Arcadia has returned home after a visit to St. Louis.

George and Albert Davis of Poplar Bluff visited Ironton relatives Sunday.

Mrs. Dr. Jones and children left Saturday for Brunot to spend the holidays.

Adolph Lopez came from St. Louis Saturday night, returning home Wednesday.

Miss Orpha Davis is spending the holidays with relatives in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Trauernicht spent Christmas with their son, A. M., and family, in Bonne Terre.

Miss Lucille Ringo arrived from Cape Girardeau Saturday to spend the holidays with her parents.

John Boswell, who has been at Camp Doniphan, Oklahoma, since August, is spending his Christmas farlough with relatives in the valley.

Miss Freda Ringo and Lucretia Henry, who are students at the State University, are visiting home folks during the holidays.

Prof. N. B. Henry, Jr., Superintendent of Public Schools at Jenks, Oklahoma, stopped off on his way to Poplar Bluff, and visited his parents.

Red Cross Notes.

The Christmas Membership drive of the Red Cross has been a great success throughout the nation. Iron County has done very well, but not as well as she can do by any means.

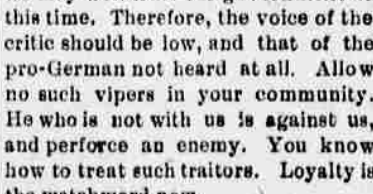
This is the greatest war activity outside the actual bearing of arms. Our drive here will be continued. We want every one in the county to wear a Red Cross Button. It has come to be considered the badge of loyalty, and in many cities the absence of one is likely to cause a person to be called a slacker.

Wear your Red Cross Button! Show which side you are on in this war!

Registrants may obtain buttons from any member of the Legal Advisory Board. Be sure to get them when your Questionnaire is filled in. It will cost only \$1!

From the County Council of Defense.

The Iron County Council of Defense is now working to secure a large acreage planted to food supplies in the spring. All farmers are urged to plant every acre possible. The labor problem will be acute, we know, but it can be solved. In France and England the old men and women, boys and girls, work in the fields. The Germans close the schools, two or three days in the weeks, so that crops may be grown. It may not be necessary to do that here, perhaps, but we know certainly that we must produce food or die. The Council is interested also in stamping out disloyalty. Let no one speak or act against our government in this time of stress. Remember that we opposed preparedness for all these years; that it takes time to accomplish great results and to train men; that large establishments are necessary to turn out munitions, airplanes, etc., and let us blame only ourselves if we have not the proper equipment on hand. All that we need in that line is being made so fast that Europe is amazed at our progress, and we may well trust our government at this time. Therefore, the voice of the critic should be low, and that of the pro-German not heard at all. Allow no such vapors in your community. He who is not with us is against us, and perform an enemy. You know how to treat such traitors. Loyalty is the watchword now.



Des Arc Items.

Another Christmas is here and a sad one to many of us, as our dear ones are away from us, perhaps never to return. This is the 76th Christmas I have seen. God has blessed me in every way. Next June I will have been married 50 years. I spent four Christmas days in the army during the civil war. Had crackers and beef for dinner, no coffee. We lived much of the time on beef soup. Our boys are well fed in the army now, but a few will die, although they have the best of treatment.

We are proud of the record that our neighbor, Dr. J. L. Hickman, of Brunot, is making in the work of hog cholera eradication for the State. The State is doing a great work for the farmers in trying to save their hogs.

Our merchants here have had a fine business. Saturday was their best day. Graves & Stamp sold over \$200; R. H. Stevenson, \$151; L. L. Schmidt, \$107.20; F. James, \$91; and A. K. Wallis, who runs a cash store, sold \$146.40.

Des Arc is having a boom in the timber business now.

I was in Fremont, Van Buren and Willow Springs the past week. That is a rough country, but, notwithstanding, they have good roads.

Our new railroad agent, Mr. Weyland, and family have arrived and are living in the village across from the station, owned by J. M. Stevenson.

The "Register" Tobacco Fund for Our Soldiers in Europe

The good women of the country are knitting sweaters, socks, wristbands and all sorts of comfortable things to send to the soldiers at the front. What about tobacco? There is nothing you can think of that will give more comfort and solace to those men than tobacco.

This paper has made all arrangements to send tobacco, and not only that, but is going to send the most popular brands in this country—the kinds that many of the men have used at home and that they all know are good.

Tobacco can be sent to Europe without tax, import duty or freight. Through the generosity of leading tobacco manufacturers we are enabled to send 50c worth of smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco or cigarettes for 25c.

It will be worth many quarters to receive grateful acknowledgment of your donation from some soldier at the front. A return post card stamped and addressed to you will be placed in each package you donate.

Send us a quarter if that is all you can spare, or more if you can spare it. This is a time to make sacrifices for the comfort of those who are risking their lives. Send one dollar, ten dollars, or one hundred dollars if you can spare it. There won't be any too much tobacco to go around. The names of all those who make donations and the amounts donated will be published in this newspaper from time to time.

Cut out the form below, fill it out for as liberal an amount as you can afford and send to us with your contribution without delay as it is important to get tobacco to the other side as quickly as it can be done.

Publisher IRON COUNTY REGISTER, Ironton, Mo.:

In accordance with your offer to send popular brands of tobaccos and cigarettes to our soldiers in Europe in units of 50c packages, each for 25c., I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ and will thank you to send the kinds I have marked below and enclose in each package a stamped return post card addressed to me.

..... 25c pkg. No. 1. Popular cigarettes having retail value of 50c.

..... 25c pkg. No. 2. Popular pipe tobacco having retail value of 50c.

..... 25c pkg. No. 3. Popular cigarette tobacco having retail value of 50c.

..... 25c pkg. No. 4. Popular plug chewing tobacco having retail value of 50c.

(Your Name) .....

(Street Address) .....

(City and State) .....

NOTICE  
—TO—  
**TAX-PAYERS**

December is the last month in which to pay your Taxes before Cost is added. Please take notice and attend to the matter at once.

**B. P. BURNHAM.**  
Collector Iron County, Mo.

Russell Farrar returned Sunday from a week's visit with his mother and sisters in Ironton.

Misses Hallie and Emma Townsend attended the school entertainment at Munger (where their brother is teaching) last Saturday evening.

Quite a number of valley folk attended the burial services at Eidsen cemetery on last Friday when Grandpa Farrar—perhaps, the oldest citizen in the state—was laid to rest.

Dr. Dailey Appleberry, 2d lieutenant in the medical corps, left for Waco, Texas, last Thursday. This leaves Bellevue valley without a physician. If there is any town that has a doctor to spare we need him.

The young people will give a play at the Masonic Hall next Saturday evening. The proceeds will be given to the local Red Cross.

Following are the latest names added to the local Red Cross membership: J. L. McClurg, L. L. Sims, Dent McKinney, Bunker Smith, Lawrence Townsend, Mrs. Caroline Smith, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Lashley, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. McClurg, Mrs. J. C. Russell, Miss Bertha Kirkpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. E. Buford, Mrs. Catherine Breitenstein, Mrs. Lavinia Winfrey, Mr. E. M. Logan, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ricketts.

ALPHA.

As has been our custom for years, we will give special discounts to schools and Sunday Schools in quantity purchases of Christmas Candles, Nuts and Oranges.

LOPEZ STORE CO.  
From Goodland.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

The snow has gone and mud is the order of the day now.

Several of the Goodland people have joined the Red Cross.

The children are home from Columbia for the holidays.

Elie, the twelve-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, died Sunday at Goodland, Mo. She was a very bright and cheerful child.

Wm. King went to St. Louis Sunday. Mrs. Jens White and baby of Cardwell are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Stephen.

Robert Bynum spent Christmas with friends in East Prairie, Mo.

Lawrence Keshner of St. Louis is a guest in the home of Dr. J. M. Stevenson.

Robert Hammett, resident of Ironton, who has been in the army, is home on furlough.

Aunt Tice Stricklin is very ill. Mrs. Grammond is very sick; also Mrs. Stella Bell.

Our boys are filling out their war papers this week. God bless them and keep them safe!

Nearly all the farmers have butchered lately, so we have spare ribs, sausage and chops aplenty.

Jesse Downard was at Goodland lately on business.

Mr. Walsen fell and hurt his face, ever so badly.

Ed Mayfield has moved from Ray's, stove mill to Strother.

Mr. Alex. Imboden of East End passed through Goodland last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Black, of Mullen, Nebraska, are home for the holidays.

Mrs. Velah Iglehart and daughter, Sammie, of Pony, Montana, are visitors at the home of Peyton Pippis.

Miss Florence Love is home for the holidays from her school in Arkansas.

Will Shrum is home from Camp Funston, looking fine in his uniform.

Jack Thompson is home from his ship in Maryland. He is well pleased with "life on the ocean wave."

We certainly enjoy reading the soldier boys' letters.

A little son gladdens the home of David Brooks.

TIMOTHY HAY.

Notice.

The undersigned has purchased what is known as the Whitener-London lands, east and north of Ironton, and all persons are hereby warned not to trespass or cut timber thereon. Every person disregarding this notice will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

OZARK LAND, TIMBER & STOCK CO.  
Ironton, Mo., November 28, 1917.

Warranty Deeds, Trust Deeds and Chattel Mortgages as made at my office.

**PONTIAC HOTEL**  
The Front  
Cordially Invited  
To the  
PONTIAC HOTEL  
Ironton, Mo.